

Canada
looking
good
ahead
of 2010



Carbs
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Vancouver Games

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Wednesday — Georgie
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the most romantic
getaways in Ontario and
why movies are such a pop-
ular date-night choice.

Thursday — Recipes for a
cosy night in.

Local pg 2

Former hockey
player charged
with murder

Grammys

Viva La Vida



Coldplay's frontman Chris Martin performs during the 51st annual Grammy Awards held at the Staples Center last night in Los Angeles. Coldplay took home three Grammys, including best rock album for Viva La Vida. Story, pg 12

Spring an election?

PAUL MCLEOD
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**Its bank account is boom-
ing and the PC Party of No-
va Scotia is ready to go for
a — maybe, possibly, per-
haps — spring election.**

And while no one is yet
confirming the — alleged,
presumable, perchance —
election, the party's annu-
al general meeting on the
weekend was brimming
with rallying cries against
the opposi-

tion.
“We’ll be
ready if
there’s an
election this
year or next

year, whenever the call
comes,” said Premier Rod-
ney MacDonald.

“There were some of the
biggest crowds (at the
AGM) that we’ve seen in
many, many years. We saw
an energy level from our
youths, which is growing,
and the numbers are grow-
ing.”

The party’s war chest
will be prepared. The To-
ries are in the best finan-
cial position they’ve been
in for years, according to
treasurer Dan Avery. The
party will have at least 50

per cent more money to
spend this election than it
did in 2006. In total, the
party has more than
\$500,000 in surplus to
spend. Though some must
be put aside for normal op-
erations, Avery said there
should be around \$450,000
that can be committed to
an election. A good chunk
of that money — \$270,000
worth — comes from pub-
lic financing. Political par-
ties are given a certain
amount of public funding
depending

**“We’ll be ready if
there’s an election.”**

Rodney MacDonald

on the num-
ber of votes
they get. The
rest of the
money
comes from
donations, fundraising,
party dues and other
sources.

Last week, the Tories
launched an attack cam-
paign against the NDP,
claiming the party had
made more than \$2 billion
in promises since 2006. The
campaign came under fire
for citing vaguely worded
statements and questions in
some cases as promises.

Yesterday, MacDonald
stood by the attacks.
“These are commitments
and suggestions that they
have made,” he said.

Seven-hour police standoff ends in arrest

RACHEL BOOMER
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CRIME RCMP arrested a 39-
year-old metro man last
night after a seven-hour-
plus standoff with police.
The incident began at
1:45 p.m. yesterday, when

Mounties went to the
home of a man they’d been
warned might want to
hurt himself.

He wasn’t home, but was
later spotted in his Chevrol-
et, heading toward the
Lawrencetown area. He
pulled over, phoned RCMP
and told them he had a

**“(He) rammed into
one of the police
vehicles.”**

RCMP Cpl. Joe Taplin

weapon. “He left, and
rammed into one of the
police vehicles as he was

leaving,” RCMP Cpl. Joe Ta-
plin said.

The man led police on a
low-speed chase into the
Porters Lake area: “He ac-
tually obeyed all the stop
signs,” Taplin said.

At about 3 p.m., he pulled
over again, along Highway
107. Police shut down that

section of the highway, and
spent nearly seven hours on
the phone negotiating with
him. He surrendered peace-
fully at 9:50 p.m. It turned
out he didn’t have a
weapon. The man was to re-
main in police custody last
night; he hadn’t, at press
time, been charged.

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Local



Help clean up hydrants

Is there a fire hydrant near your home? If so, clean the snow off and shovel around it. HRM Fire and Emergency Services says ensuring fire hydrants are accessible could save firefighters valuable time if they had to respond to a fire in your neighbourhood.

METRO HALIFAX

Talk about fuel efficient

Hybrid, schmybrid: How about Vancouver on an \$11 tank?

JENNIFER TAPLIN
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There's not a lot of trunk space, but it could get you to Vancouver on \$11 in gas.

A team of six mechanical engineering students from Dalhousie University is competing to build the world's most fuel-efficient car.

The competition, sponsored by Shell, takes place on a racetrack in Fontana, Calif., in April. At the helm of Nova Scotia's Maritime Mileage Machine will be five-foot-four Carmen McKnight.

"I haven't done this kind of thing before," said McKnight, who sat in the vehicle for the first time yesterday. "I am a little nervous because I don't want to screw it up for them. I feel there's a lot riding on me."

She'll drive the prototype like she's on a luge — lying down on her back with her head propped up.

"It's designed for optimal aerodynamics, so there's very little drag on the car," teammate Matthew Harding said.



Dalhousie mechanical engineering students (standing left to right) Brad Marcus, Chad Batterton, Craig Arthur, Liam Jeffery and Matthew Harding help Carmen McKnight into their prototype vehicle at the Sexton campus yesterday.

The current record in the U.S. is 1,445 kilometres per litre, which is not bad considering the average vehicle gets about 13 kilometres per litre.

Dalhousie's current record is 420 kilometres per litre, but Harding said they're trying to beat that score.

"The main thing is to

show people that with existing technology you can get optimum fuel mileage," he said.

"Our vehicle isn't practical — you wouldn't hop in this and drive to work — but it's more to show this is a possibility."

The body is sleek and light (made from Kevlar) and under the hood is a 35-

cc engine from a lawn trimmer.

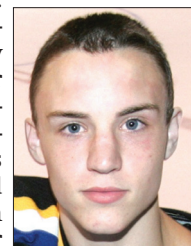
"It's not the power that a car has, but we are propelling an occupant through a course," Harding said. "It's using only the power it needs. Cars right now produce way more power than what's required to propel the vehicle."

Ex-Subways hockey player charged in Alta. murder

JENNIFER TAPLIN
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RED DEER A former Dartmouth hockey star was arrested by police in Alberta and charged with murder last week.

Teagan Klein, 23, was allegedly murdered. Her mother discovered her body in her Red Deer house on Wednesday. Klein's three-year-old son was allegedly confined in the house with his dead mother for at least 12 hours.



Brett Jones

Brett Jones, 19, was arrested in Edmonton on Thursday night. He was charged with second-degree murder, and other charges of robbery, assault causing bodily harm, forcible confinement and theft were added later. He is scheduled to appear in a Red Deer courtroom today.

The new charges were added because, according to media reports, the po-

lice allege he assaulted the toddler before confining him, and stole Klein's car.

Jones was a scoring star with the Dartmouth Subways who was dismissed from the team for off-ice reasons. He joined the Junior A Antigonish Bulldogs, where he was also sent home for off-ice reasons.

He played with the Dartmouth Whalers Minor Hockey Association and was picked to be on the all-rookie team in the 2004-05 season of the Nova Scotia Major Midget Hockey league.

Klein's uncle, Darren McArthur, read a family statement Friday, reported CTV Calgary.

"Her brutal death has left a little boy without a mother and a family that will forever be broken by this senseless tragedy. We know this is only the beginning of a long, hard process," he read.

Province, teachers reach agreement

DEAL Parents can breathe a bit easier: The province and its 10,000 teachers have a tentative contract agreement.

The two sides came up with the deal late Friday, after three days of conciliation. Teachers have been without a contract since July 31, 2008. **METRO HALIFAX**

metronews.ca
WHAT'S ONLINE TODAY

Video Expected aid for U.S. financial sector has investors optimistic for this week's trading at metronews.ca/canada

Lotteries

Friday, Feb. 6
Lotto Super 7: 1, 2, 8, 20, 33, 35 & 42. Bonus 15.
Saturday, Feb. 7
Lotto 6/49: 14, 20, 24, 30, 34 & 37. Bonus 31.
These results are not official.

Shrinking snow budget leaves councillor cold

JENNIFER TAPLIN
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ROADS Have you been complaining about the city's slow plowing pace this winter? You've got company on council.

Last week, Purcell's Cove-Armdale Coun. Linda Mosher got a call from a resident: An ambulance had a tough time getting to an ailing 71-year-old woman because the road wasn't plowed.

"The paramedics had to walk up a steep hill with a stretcher to get the lady to the ambulance which delayed her getting to the hospital," Mosher said in an interview yesterday.

"Then after the lady was released from the hospital and able to go home ...

"We have winter, whether you like it or not, we have it every year and we have to put a realistic amount in the budget."

Coun. Linda Mosher

they had to park the car on a neighbouring street and cut through a neighbour's backyard and up a hill to get her into the house."

At tomorrow's council meeting, Mosher is going to ask for options to tighten up the snow removal standards for next year.

Priority 1 streets are plowed within 12 hours, but Priority 2 roads are done within 24 hours. That's manageable if the snowstorms are spaced out, but this winter they've been piling up, leaving crews with barely enough time to catch their

breath.

"You can't pretend it isn't going to happen," she said. "We have winter, whether you like it or not, we have it every year and we have to put a realistic amount in the budget. If we don't utilize all that funding, then we should have that funding in a reserve to be used the next year."

It's not just snowy streets, either. Mosher said residents in her district are complaining that sidewalks in front of HRM-owned buildings and parks are not cleared.

No one hurt in Saturday blaze

APARTMENT Investigators are still trying to determine the cause of a fire on Dartmouth's Prince Albert Road on Saturday.

Early in the afternoon, a blaze damaged an apartment building at 55 and 57 Prince Albert Rd., which housed a children's used clothing store and four apartments. Eleven people were left homeless. No one

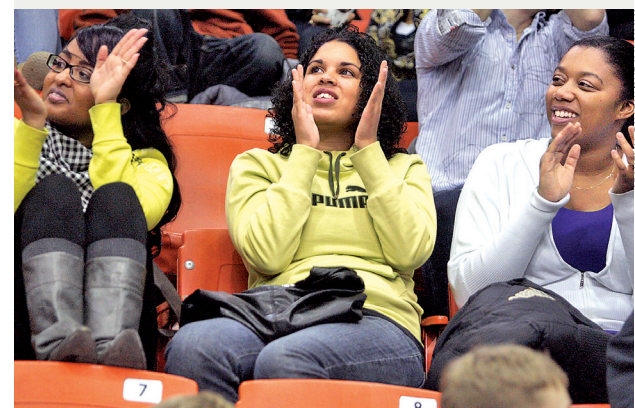
was hurt.

The Red Cross says this has been a particularly bad season for house fires in Atlantic Canada, with more than 60 house and apartment fires affecting almost 250 people.

Most of the Prince Albert Road tenants made arrangements to stay with family and friends.

METRO HALIFAX

Rainmen Face in the Crowd



If that's you in the middle with the green Puma hoodie at yesterday's Rainmen game against the Vermont Frost Heaves, you're our Face in the Crowd winner! Drop by the Metro office at 3260 Barrington St. to pick up your prize: a Rainmen Flex Pack.

Halifax, toy-block size

More than 7,000 people have visited the Lego: City by the Sea display at the Maritime Museum of the Atlantic since it went up in December. **METRO HALIFAX**

local **3**

University of King's College students study at the campus library. Maclean's magazine recently ranked King's as the best experience for first-year students.

King's tops for first-year students: Maclean's

JON TATTRIE
for Metro Halifax

The University of King's College is the best in Canada for first-year students, according to a study published in Maclean's magazine this week.

The National Survey of Student Engagement said King's students had the highest level of satisfaction with their entire experience and came second for the desire to begin again at the same institution.

Kiki Wood, now a second-year student at King's, credits the big-school range of options the small campus provides. "When you leave the classroom, you don't really exit the subjects you're learning about."

In her first year, Wood took part in the photography and writing societies, along with a "baking and

"When you leave the classroom, you don't really exit the subjects you're learning about."

Kiki Wood, King's student

philosophy" club.

"It was really cute. We would all get together and bake in the kitchen and talk about whatever it was we were doing that week," she said.

She added her professors and department heads were approachable, especially ahead of the dreaded oral exam. Upper-year students pitched in, too, helping the frosh edit papers and prepare for tests. The Toronto native liked King's so much, she stayed in Halifax over the summer to work on campus.

The Foundation Year Program deserves much of the credit, said president William Baker.

A first-year class of about 300 and a small campus mean teachers and students get to know each other better than at large campuses, he said.

"The program is integrated much more than a typical first year. You're basically taking four courses as a single course," Baker said. "Everyone's got their papers due on the same day, you're talking about your tests together, you have lunch together, and so on."

"It's not something you can keep growing," he added.

"The trick for us is to keep the place welcoming for students to stay and continue their studies."

Grants aimed at rural leadership

GRANTS The Rural Communities Foundation of Nova Scotia recently presented three non-profit organizations with grants aimed at increasing leadership in rural communities. The foundation, during its AGM and a subsequent focus group, determined flourishing rural areas need effective volunteer leaders. However, many volunteers have few resources. The successful volunteer applicants included the Bay St. Lawrence Community Centre, the Mersey Tobatic Research Institute and the Digby Area Learning Association. No dollar amounts have been released.

METRO HALIFAX

News in brief

CRASH An RCMP officer was involved in a car crash Friday after chasing a speeding driver. At 9:20 a.m., the Mountie tried to pull over the driver on Highway 102 near exit 5A. The driver passed a semi tractor-trailer and pulled too close in front of the truck, forcing the truck to hit the brakes. The RCMP officer tried to avoid the collision, hit the speeder's car, then rolled over into a ditch. He was taken to the Cobequid Health Centre for observation.

ROBBERY Two men assaulted and robbed a 23-year-old pedestrian near Charles and Agricola streets Saturday night. The suspects are two men in their 20s; one black, 6-0 and wore a black puffy jacket. The other was white, 5-8, wearing a light-coloured jacket. The vic-

tim wasn't seriously hurt.

THEFT Police charged two women and a man with robbery and possession of stolen property after an early evening theft at American Apparel on Queen Street on Friday. Three women walked into the store at 5:45 p.m., stole some clothing, and assaulted a clerk who tried to stop them. Two of the women got into a car with a man; police stopped the car shortly afterward and arrested all three. They're still looking for the third female suspect.

BUST Halifax Regional Police and RCMP seized what they call a "substantial" amount of drugs, cash and bear spray from a home on Peruz Court in Bedford on Friday night. Three people have been charged; police are looking for a fourth.

METRO HALIFAX



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Despite lowering projections and launching massive recruiting drives, the military hasn't been able to increase personnel numbers enough to meet government pledges, a new report finds. Regular forces were supposed to be boosted to 65,537 in 2007-08, but numbers were only up to 64,403. **TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE**

Military struggling to boost personnel numbers

Canada



Bus driver faces DUI charge

The driver of a Toronto-bound bus has been charged with impaired driving after motorists called police to report aggressive driving. Officers stopped the Coach Canada bus, which was on its way from Niagara Falls, around 7:30 a.m. yesterday near Oakville, Ont. A 48-year-old from Niagara Falls been released on a promise to appear in court.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Examining the possible threats

GAMES While he believes that the likelihood of a terrorist attack during the 2010 Games is low, Simon Fraser University political science Prof. Douglas Ross warns that it's still a possibility. Below, he comments on some potential security threats.

1 Suicide bombers in high-volume areas. "That would maybe be the most probable."

2 An explosive hidden in a vehicle. "Something like a 500-metre to one-kilometre radius would just be utterly destroyed."

3 Terrorist organizations using fissile materials to create nuclear explosives. "That's the lowest probability but the highest risk."

4 Detonation of a radioactive dirty bomb. "This is at the low-end (of probability) but with a much higher consequence."

5 Biological agents. "Trying to ensure that nobody's carrying any little parcels of Anthrax-laden powder would be almost impossible."

**ANDREA WOO/
FOR METRO CANADA**

Expert questions Games safety

RCMP officials say they are confident in their security plans for 2010

ANDREA WOO
for Metro Canada

VANCOUVER 2010 Games

As the estimated cost for Olympic security soars to nearly six times the original budget, an expert at Simon Fraser University says more needs to be done.

According to RCMP Assistant Commissioner Bud Mercer, there will be about 8,000 law enforcement officials on site during the two-week Games, securing the perimeters of Olympic venues and screening attendees for weapons and other prohibited items.

There will also be hundreds of surveillance cameras installed in and around Olympic sites as well as vehicle and pedestrian screening. All newspaper boxes will be removed from the perimeter of Olympic venues.

Cpl. Jen Allan, spokeswoman for the Vancouver 2010 Integrated Security



Canadian Forces members seen in Stanley Park ahead of this week's Olympics security training exercise. Plans are being considered to set up army camps in the Vancouver-Whistler corridor during the Games.

Unit, said the ISU receives intelligence from both domestic and international security partners, conducts ongoing risk assessments and devises tactics accordingly.

"We're confident in

where we are in terms of planning," she said.

However, Douglas Ross, a political science professor at Simon Fraser University who specializes in foreign policy and international security studies, said

Vancouver has been ill-prepared from the get-go, calling the original budget of \$175 million — which has since jumped to about \$1 billion — "a joke."

"They're trying to classify and hide everything be-

Getting prepared

- Tomorrow, the Vancouver 2010 Integrated Security Unit will begin Exercise Silver, a five-day security training exercise across B.C.'s Lower Mainland and in Whistler.

- Security experts are also preparing for the possibility of terrorists seizing a B.C. Ferries vessel and of unidentified aircraft entering restricted air space.



cause they really haven't done enough," Ross said. He cites the lack of screening of all cargo at Vancouver ports as an example.

"If terrorist groups were to think that security was less than fully effective here ... they might get the idea that this is a good target where there will be a lot of sitting Americans. I'm not sure that people in Ottawa, or VANOC, are really taking this seriously."

Latest poll finds Liberals gaining on Conservatives

POLITICS The ruling Tories have seen their lead over the Opposition Liberals slip after the release of the federal budget, according to a new poll released Saturday.

The Ipsos-Reid survey for the CanWest media conglomerate put the Conservatives at 37 per cent support, down two points from a poll by the same



Michael Ignatieff

company in early January. Michael Ignatieff's Liberals were up three points at 31 per cent.

The NDP had the backing of 14 per cent, a drop of

one point.

The polling firm said the Liberals have steadily closed the gap with the Conservatives from 23 points at the beginning of December to the current six points.

REUTERS

Jobs available despite economic gloom

ECONOMY In a world of doom and gloom, Margi Moscoe's tale is a sunny one.

The 28-year-old hasn't graduated from university yet, but she entertained multiple job offers before grabbing a plum post with Infosys Consulting Inc.

"I got pretty lucky. I'll be working in New York City, Rockefeller Center, right in the heart of the action," says Moscoe, who was hired this fall while completing MBA studies at the Rotman School of Management at the University of Toronto.

Moscoe says credit for her six-figure salary job offers goes to a muscular re-

"I got pretty lucky. I'll be working in New York City, Rockefeller Center, right in the heart of the action."

Margi Moscoe, U of T management student

sumé that includes a summer job working for Infosys in India, a fall semester spent in China on an exchange and four years of working full time in the packaging industry before enrolling at Rotman.

Although she already had a BA in commerce from Queen's University, she returned to school to increase her marketability.

"It was either Europe or New York for me," says

Moscoe, whose successful job hunt occurred during a global recession.

But it's not bad news for everyone, Moscoe knows, after seeing Chinese companies flock to the campus where she was studying last fall to snap up the latest crop of graduates.

Canada's economy is taking a hit in the global recession. The unemployment rate now stands at 7.2 per cent nationally. Among youths aged 15 to 24, the

rate is 12.7 per cent.

However, people are still being hired every day.

U of T's career centre reports robust hiring in occupations involving engineering, business/commerce/MBA, computer science, economics, actuarial science, pharmacy and health care.

"There's doom and gloom everywhere, but we continue to help students with employment and help them with their career choices," reports centre associate director Lynn Brownlie, who says even arts and science graduates are being sought by employers.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

News in brief

WINNIPEG Manitoba's chief medical examiner says security guards at the Health Sciences Centre in Winnipeg tried in vain to get help for a homeless man as he sat vomiting — and dying

— in the emergency department last September, the Winnipeg Free Press reports. After viewing security tapes a doctor said that guards tried "many times" to help Brian Sinclair.

KIDNAPPED A videotape that indicates two Canadians kidnapped in Niger last year are still alive has emerged, according to the news service Agence-France Press. AFP

reported Saturday that UN special envoy Robert Fowler and his assistant Louis Guay appeared on the tape and introduced themselves.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Ottawa holds on to disaster, policing funds

POLITICS The Conservative government hung onto nearly \$64 million of a \$140-million fund budgeted for emergency disaster relief, apparently because nobody asked for it, a departmental report suggests.

The public safety department also spent less than half of the \$43 million budgeted in 2007-08 for crime-prevention projects after the Conservatives revamped program criteria to direct spending to projects that — as the politicians promised — would show "results."

Opposition critics have raised concerns about money left on the table, saying the federal Conservatives are quick to take credit for spending announcements, but are leaving municipalities in need and communities at risk in limbo.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Marijuana use ups testicular cancer risk: Study

Marijuana use may increase the risk of developing testicular cancer, in particular a more aggressive form of the disease, according to a U.S. study. Current users were 70 per cent more likely to develop it than non-users, with 10-year-plus users, frequent users or men who started smoking before age 18 at the highest risk. **REUTERS**

World



Getting down to business

U.S. President Barack Obama's first televised White House news conference dealing with his \$827-billion US economic stimulus package should be a relatively business-like affair compared to previous ones: Richard Nixon's antagonistic showdown with journalists at the height of the Watergate scandal; George W. Bush's refusal to admit he followed false intelligence on Iraq; Bill Clinton's denial of ever having sex with a White House intern.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Aussie wildfire kills 108

FIRE Australia's deadliest bushfire crisis eased early today, but the death toll kept rising with at least 108 people killed as families searched for scores of missing in the twisted, charred ruins.

Australian Prime Minister Kevin Rudd told Australian television the bushfires, some of which police believe were deliberately lit, reached "a level of horror that few of us anticipated. There are no words to describe it other than mass murder. These numbers (dead) are numbing ... and I fear they will rise further."

The media are reporting the death toll could reach 170 as authorities searched hundreds of burnt-out homes. More than 750 houses were destroyed and some 78 people, with seri-

"There are no words to describe it other than mass murder."

PM Kevin Rudd

ous burns and injuries, are in hospital.

The previous worst bushfire tragedy was in 1983 when 75 people died.

A massive bushfire tore through several small towns north of Melbourne on Saturday night destroying everything in its path. Many people died in cars trying to flee the inferno, others were killed huddled in their homes, yet some miraculously escaped by diving into pools and farm reservoirs or hiding in their cellar.

REUTERS

Combat rages in Sri Lanka

More than 1,400 civilians poured out of Sri Lanka's war zone yesterday, bringing the total in the last four days to nearly 14,000 as soldiers try to deal a death blow to the separatist Tamil Tiger rebels, the military said.

The rate of civilians trapped in fighting between the military and the cornered Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) has picked up sharply this week, signalling the onset of faster military operations to wipe out the guerrillas.

More than 50,000 soldiers are converging on a sliver of jungle in the Indian Ocean island's north-east to crush the LTTE — now estimated to number no more than 2,000 hard-

Ongoing violence

• On Saturday, 35 Tamil Tiger fighters counter-attacked with an armour-plated vehicle and tried a suicide attack in the village of Puthukudiyiruppu.

• A week ago, Tiger suicide fighters drove an explosives-laden truck with another vehicle toward advancing troops, killing as many as 15 soldiers.

core fighters — and end a war that has flared off and on since 1983.

Combat raged at numerous locations in the 175 sq km battle zone, killing at least 11 guerrillas in a series of attacks and counter-attacks on Saturday, the military said.

"On Saturday, 5,600 had come out. And today there are 1,400 who have come at the moment. There will be more and more com-

ing," military spokesman Brigadier Udaya Nanayakkara said.

Thursday marked the first major exodus, and since then 13,700 people have come to army-held territory, most of them heading west and away from the fighting on the A-35 road, he said.

Since Jan. 1, about 17,900 have fled the fighting. That is roughly between seven and 15 per cent of the total

trapped in the area — aid agencies say around 250,000 are there, while the government says the number is about half of that.

Sri Lanka, aid agencies and rights groups have accused the rebels of forcibly keeping people in the war zone as human shields, conscripts and labourers. The Tigers deny that.

The pro-rebel website tamilnet.com accused the military of shelling roads and groups of civilians, killing more than 120 people last week, but cited no sources. The military denies targeting civilians.

Verifying battlefield reports is next to impossible since the war zone is sealed off to independent media.

REUTERS

U.S. Treasury postpones unveiling bank bailout

ECONOMY The Obama administration yesterday pushed back until tomorrow the announcement of a keenly awaited bank rescue plan as it pressed lawmakers to settle their differences over a huge economic stimulus package.

"We're focused on working with Congress to pass an economic recovery bill so we can create the jobs and make the investments necessary to get our economy moving again," Treasury Department spokesman Isaac Baker said.

The announcement of the bank rescue plan — which will seek to shore up some of the biggest commercial banks in the United States — had been due today.

But the Senate is now expected to be focused on that day on a massive economic stimulus ahead of a vote Tuesday.

For that reason, Treasury Secretary Timothy Geithner had postponed release of the bank plan, Baker said in a statement.

White House National Economic Council director Lawrence Summers said the administration wants to keep lawmakers concentrating on the stimulus plan.

REUTERS

Israel Different viewpoints



A passerby stands in front of a Kadima party campaign billboard depicting Israel's Foreign Minister Tzipi Livni in Jerusalem yesterday. With his poll lead narrowing ahead of tomorrow's parliamentary election, right-winger Benjamin Netanyahu stressed Israelis' fears of Arab attacks and said government plans to trade land for peace were doomed to failure. His main opponent, the centrist Kadima party leader Livni, said she would continue the U.S.-sponsored peace process with the Palestinians that she pursued as foreign minister, an outcome favoured by the new Obama administration in Washington.

News in brief

LIECHTENSTEIN Prime Minister Otmar Hasler, who heads the Progressive Citizens Party, said yesterday he was resigning as Liechtenstein's leader after eight years in office. His party

lost votes in a parliamentary election to the politically similar Fatherland Union, seemingly reflecting a desire for change of face rather than change in policy.

REUTERS

SPAIN Spain will not cut firing costs or worker rights as an answer to its economic crisis, but create jobs and guarantee dole for the jobless, Prime Minister Jose Luis Rodriguez Zapatero

said yesterday. Spanish workers shouldn't pay for economic problems, he said, considering "this crisis wasn't started by workers, by normal people, common citizens."

REUTERS

Russia, U.S. talk relations 'reset'

DIPLOMACY Russia yesterday welcomed a pledge by the United States "to press the reset button" on relations with Moscow, in a sign the former Cold War rivals could repair relations under U.S. President Barack Obama.

U.S. Vice-President Joe Biden, in a speech at a security conference in Munich, said on Saturday it was time to end a dangerous drift in ties and work with Moscow.

Russian Deputy Prime Minister Sergei Ivanov, after meeting Biden yesterday, said the United States' willingness to co-operate "inspires optimism."

REUTERS

IMF mulls aid for emerging markets

ECONOMY The International Monetary Fund is considering how it could provide support to emerging market countries vulnerable to the downturn, despite the fact they have sound policies and fundamentals.

Using Poland as an example, Fund spokesman David Hawley said the group is "exploring how its existing facilities could be adopted to provide financial support on a contingent, as-needed basis."

Both Polish and Fund officials denied any such policy program was under discussion.

REUTERS

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Comment & Views

Comment

Valentine's Day playbook

HineSight

Anne Hines



This is a public service announcement. Men, Valentine's Day is almost here. Now, in guy speak "almost here" means "today" or "Darn, I missed it." Or "Darn, I missed it again." But be forewarned, Valentine's Day is in five days. And to the woman in your life, five days is "almost here."

Some men are masters of the art of romance. My brother, David, for instance, buys his wife single red roses, makes cards by hand and takes the kids out so she can enjoy a quiet bubble bath. There's a term to describe men like this — still married.

But for those of you who

are slightly more special-occasion-challenged, here's a little advice to help you avoid what happened last Valentine's Day ... and you know what that was. I offer The Hine-sight Guide to Avoiding V. Day Disaster.

Picture this day as the Super Bowl of romantic occasions. You are the quarterback. How does a quarter-back ensure the play gets completed? He doesn't say, "Um ... I'm just going to throw something together with whatever I can grab at Shoppers Drug Mart." He plans ahead.

Begin with the gift. The gift is vital.

Valentine's Day

But do not stress yourself thinking a gift has to be big or expensive. It just has to be perfect.

You see, to a man, a gift says, "This is a gift." To a woman, a gift says, "This is how I see you. This is how I feel about you in my deepest most truthful heart of hearts." The reason women place so much importance on gifts is that we don't always have any other way of getting



that information. Remember, no woman wants to know you think of her as a red flannel nightgown or new car mats. Instead, look at the kind of thing she buys herself and buy her more of it.

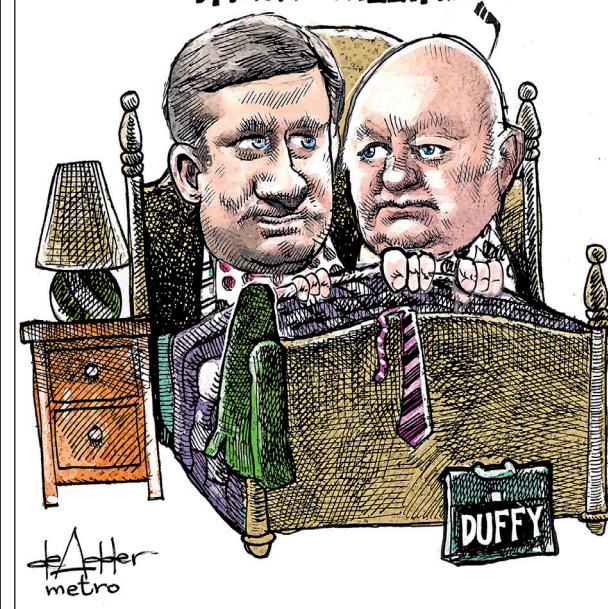
Next, choose where to present the gift. As a rule of thumb, unless you met, had your first date and conceived your first child at a Taco Bell, fast food restaurants do not spell "romance." Making her dinner will score you big points, particularly if you don't watch TV while eating or suggest that, since you cooked, she do the washing up.

With a little attention to the playbook, you can run this Valentine's Day right through the end zone.

Or, in woman speak, you won't be sleeping alone for the next 12 months.

Anne Hines is an author and humour writer. She has written three novels and one collection of nonfiction humour.

I THINK IT'S REPULSIVE HOW PREMIER GHIZ GOT INTO BED WITH PREMIER DANNY WILLIAMS.



MICHAEL DE ADDER

Letters

It's time for peninsula council to govern again

The chickens are coming back to roost in HRM.

On Monday, Peninsula Community Council will hear a report into regulating fowl, which is, unfortunately, a bureaucratic snowjob.

The report only examined a few cities and left out most that allow chickens. It cites disease, which is an issue for large commercial farms, but not for small flocks. The report misses other chicken disputes, including a recent court case. Finally, it suggests that change should only proceed at the regional level, presumably to kill the issue. The report is biased and reflects the bureaucracy's preference for the status quo.

Someone has to clip the wings of these bureaucrats. From chickens, to the winter parking ban, to the police department's polygraph testing, the message staff has delivered to council is, "You can't do that."

It's time for our elected council to rein in the bureaucracy and govern again.

SAM AUSTIN, HALIFAX

Shame on Toronto transit for running atheist ads

Re: Atheist ads promote debate, understanding (Feb. 5)

It is plain to see that spirituality has a strong bearing on morality, apart from a few exceptions. No wonder our society is suffering from murders, rapes and assorted crimes. Toronto transit will have contributed to the furtherance of these evils, which will continue.

As per the 30th anniversary Reader's Digest Reader, Nobel Prize winner Dr. Robert Millikan said, "Just how we fit into the plans of the Great Architect and how much He has assigned us to do, we do not know, but if we fail in our assignment it is pretty certain that part of the job will be left undone. But fit in we certainly do somehow, else we would not have a sense of our own responsibility. A purely materialistic philosophy is to me the height of unintelligence."

I applaud the Victoria and Halifax transit systems.

Shame on Toronto transit.

ABE SAMUEL, CALGARY

Views

Don't let your employment define you

UrbanScrawl

Christina Biluk

theurbanscrawl@gmail.com

With our economy changing daily, and our job status perhaps changing along with it, now is a good a time to change the way we think about how what we do, and where we work, defines us.

When did what we "do" become the definition of who we are?

So often, the first question we're asked when someone new meets us is, "What do you do?" Has anyone ever started a conversation with, "What are your hobbies? What's

your passion? What keeps you up at night? Where are you from? How do you like living in Halifax?"

Over the last century in North America, what we "do" has become the defining quality of who we are. We've become so busy trying to cram everything in, we've stopped building relationships. We've forgotten what makes us individuals.

Most of us fell into our careers because of the paths our lives took. We were led by where we were living, who we met, how our relationships took form, and the direction our first "real" job led us.

Many of us will admit that what we do is the farthest thing from where our passion lies. More than 75 per cent of participants in a FUSION survey released Jan. 29 revealed that the reason they are driven to live, work and play in Halifax is because of the lifestyle the city offers, and its proximity to family — not their career. If these are the reasons we're here, shouldn't they be the same reasons we connect with each other?

If, tomorrow morning, you woke up and could do anything you wanted, would it be what you do today? Likely not. So, why do we insist on defining

people by what they do, not by who they are?

The next time you introduce yourself to someone, try this: Ask what brought them to Halifax, their favourite restaurant, or their child's name. Find out a little bit about them, and not what they do or where they work.

In this time of economic struggle, if you suddenly find yourself without a job, or taking a job to tide you over while you find something that suits you better, don't feel that it has changed who you are. What you do isn't who you are; it's just how you pay the bills. Who you are is so much more than that.

Christina Biluk is Director of Engagement for FUSION Halifax. Visit FUSIONHalifax.ca to find out how to get involved in shaping our city.

It's your turn to tell others what you think. E-mail your thoughts and opinions to: halifaxletters@metronews.ca

Letters must include sender's full name, address and phone number — street name and phone numbers will NOT be published. We reserve the right to edit letters.

Calculate your water footprint

The water footprint of an individual is defined as the total volume of freshwater that is used to produce the goods and services consumed by that person. The production of one kilogram of beef, for example, requires 16,000 litres of water. For more, see www.waterfootprint.org. **DAVID SUZUKI FOUNDATION**

Going Green

Millionth milestone

Last Wednesday, members of One Million Acts of Green logged their one millionth act of green. During the campaign, participants logged an average 9,435 acts per day. GreenNexus calculates the total acts of green to date represent a reduction of nearly 56,000,000 kilograms of greenhouse gas. For more, see www.onemillionactsofgreen.com. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

EDITOR: MIKE DEREZYCKY, MIKE.DEREZYCKY@METRONews.CA

Putting a price on water

Some Canadian cities are exploring options for delivery

EarthTones

Sophia Dore & Andrew Laursen



earthtones.metro@gmail.com

Last week, Metro reported the City of Calgary is considering a third-party provider for regional water delivery. A private company would invest in infrastructure such as pipes and water treatment plants and the public would pay the city or the private company to have clean water delivered to its houses.

As the water infrastructure decays and municipalities are increasingly strapped for cash for repair, privatization is being, or has been, considered in many cities across the country.

We Canadians love our water. And we use a lot. Between 1972 and 1996, Canada's rate of water consumption increased by almost 90 per cent, to 45 billion cubic metres per year

from 24 billion cubic metres per year. But our population increased by only 33.6 per cent over the same period.

Although it would seem that we live in a land with plenty of water, water conservation is important. We withdraw water from ground or surface water, we use it, and we discharge it, but the quality of the water we discharge is often not as good as the quality of water we withdraw (depending on how it was used and treated). We have contaminated some ground and surface water sources to the point where we no longer want to withdraw water from them.

So, it would seem that decreasing water use should decrease the discharge of pollutants. Privatization of water delivery systems would likely result in our water bills being

linked to consumption of water, which is currently true for barely half of Canadians. Many still pay a flat rate for water delivery. A 1999 study showed wa-

ter use was 70 per cent higher when consumers paid a flat rate for water. Privatization could, then, improve conservation efforts through the cheap-skate principle (we conserve for the sake of our wallets, rather than the sake of our resources).

However, can we count on private companies to safeguard the integrity of our lakes and rivers by being vigilant about the quality of the water they discharge? The city of Hamilton privatized its water supply in the early '90s, and throughout the decade the city was plagued by discharges of sewage to basements across the city and to Lake Ontario. Although never proven, these discharges were blamed by many on the privatization of the water plants.

Discharges of sewage to our wa-

terways led to a dramatic decline in water quality. The high levels of nitrogen and phosphorus contained in sewage can lead to algal blooms, which, together with bacteria that degrade the carbon-based portion of the sewage, lead to oxygen concentrations in the water becoming depleted, which leads to the death of fish and other aquatic life. Also, direct sewage discharge can introduce pathogens to our water, such as E. coli, and contaminants such as metals, which can be transmitted either by direct ingestion of water or by consuming fish from contaminated water bodies.

Discharges of sewage do not only occur when private companies are at the helm, however. So, whoever is in charge of delivering and cleaning our water as we move forward will need to meet stringent guidelines and maintain strict controls over discharge, as well as promoting water conservation so we can maintain the privilege of ample clean water.

Sophia Dore is an environmental scientist with Conestoga-Rovers & Associates. Andrew Laursen is an assistant professor at Ryerson University.



SMALL STEPS
David Suzuki

Turning your life green

Canadians use more than eight billion disposable cups each year.

Meanwhile, Statistics Canada tells us that 30 per cent of us still drink predominantly bottled water. What's worse, the Union of Concerned Scientists tells us that 90 per cent of water bottles are not recycled.

If we all remember to carry our reusable coffee cups with us, we can reduce our impact significantly.

DAVID SUZUKI FOUNDATION

News in brief

PROTOTYPE Canadian architecture firm MOSS SUND, in partnership with industrial and mechanical design firm figlforty, recently introduced its new rain storage and harvesting prototype that allows homeowners to conserve water and increase their home's green space. Called CISTA, the prototype works by capturing rainwater flow from a home's eavestrough into a storage tank. This water can then be stored and used for lawn and garden maintenance. CISTA is undergoing testing this year and designers are hoping to have the units on the market for spring 2010.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Art world under threat from climate change, experts say

Art treasures in tropical nations are under threat from climate change, which is likely to speed decay, UN experts said yesterday.

"The art world is made of materials that bugs like," said Jose-Luis Ramirez, head of the UN University's program for biotechnology for Latin America and the Caribbean.

"Climate change is a threat because it is going to increase the amount of fungus and bugs in many regions," he told Reuters of a meeting of experts in Caracas this week on new ways

to protect art collections.

Many museums, especially in tropical nations, lack even air conditioning to protect collections of paintings, sculptures and other art from likely shifts in humidity and temperature, Ramirez said. The experts will discuss new ways to protect art works, including harnessing micro-organisms, for instance, to remove fungus.

"Biological methods are less aggressive than physical or chemical means," Ramirez said.

REUTERS

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Happy Valentines Day



Clients paid using corporate credit cards: Ex-N.Y. madam
A former madam of a high-priced New York prostitution ring alleged in a U.S. television interview on ABC's 20/20 that investment bankers, Wall Street lawyers, CEOs and media executives often paid for her services using corporate credit cards. **REUTERS**

Business



Less pay ahead for Canadian execs

A move by the heads of some of Canada's biggest banks to give up millions of dollars in pay is a sign of things to come for corporate Canada, faced with the dire state of the economy and markets. The heads of Royal Bank of Canada and Bank of Montreal said just days ago that they would give up a total of almost \$10 million in mid-term and long-term compensation. **REUTERS**

EDITOR: FERMIN DESOUZA, FERMIN.DESOUZA@METRONEWS.CA

The DAILY BUSINESS BUZZ

Reaching out in Calgary:

The Council of Atlantic Premiers is leading a Communications and Business Outreach Mission in Calgary from February 8-9. Nova Scotia companies participating include Clare Machine Works, Breton ND Testing and the Halifax Stanfield International Airport Authority.

Convention centre gets backing from DHBC

The Downtown Halifax Business Commission has announced its support of a new convention centre on the former Halifax Herald land.

Get the full stories delivered to your inbox every morning.

Sign-up today for the **DAILY BUSINESS BUZZ** nsbj.ca

Hong Kong In the mood for love



Model Annet Ko poses in a bathtub outside a shopping mall in Hong Kong over the weekend during a sales promotion for Valentine's Day celebrations.

Canada lost 129,000 jobs

Canada's economy shed 129,000 jobs in January, bigger than any monthly drop seen in the last two recessions, pushing the national unemployment rate up 0.6 of a percentage point to 7.2 per cent.

Canada's manufacturing sector continued to bear the brunt of the economy's job losses last month as the automotive industry scaled back production in response to feeble consumer demand.

In manufacturing, 101,000 net positions evaporated in January, the largest monthly decline on record for the sector, according to Statistics Canada. About 36,000 of those positions were in Ontario,

"I do not discount the risk of going double digits on the unemployment rates on both sides of the border."

Economist Derek Holt

where a slew of recent lay-off announcements started to take effect.

The severity of the overall job cuts prompted some economists to warn the jobless rate could reach double digits, as hopes for a quick economic rebound grow dimmer.

"I thought our call was at the extreme. I think we had the worst number at

60,000 (expected job losses), and even we have egg on our faces," said Derek Holt, vice-president of Scotia Capital Economics.

"This was just an all-around bad report."

Since October, Canada's economy has shed 213,000 positions, nearly all of them full-time.

For all of this year, Scotia Capital has been expecting about 250,000 net job losses in Canada. "We just got half that in one month, so these are all uncharted waters on so many variables," Holt said. "I do not discount the risk of going double digits on the unemployment rates on both sides of the border."

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Billion-pound bank bonus prompts outrage in U.K.

PAYMENTS Reports that the Royal Bank of Scotland was about to award its staff a billion pounds in bonuses prompted outrage in Britain yesterday at a time of soaring unemployment and with a deep recession looming.

British Finance Minister Alistair Darling vowed that bankers who had lost money would not get big cash bonuses, though he said it was too early to follow U.S. President Barack Obama's lead and put a mandatory cap on bankers' pay.

Opposition politicians said Darling's decision to launch a review into banks' management and remuneration was too late to stop a wave of hefty bonuses.

The Sunday Telegraph

Obligation

- RBS's planned bonuses are 60 per cent lower than a year ago, and it believed it was contractually obliged to pay many of the bonuses to staff it had acquired in its 2007 takeover of Dutch bank ABN AMRO, the newspaper said.

newspaper reported that RBS plans to pay out nearly a billion pounds in bonuses this year, even though it has just posted the biggest-ever financial loss for a British company.

RBS required a 20-billion-pound government bailout to stay afloat last year and is now nearly 70 per cent state-owned.

REUTERS

In brief

DRUG PROBE Ontario will lead a national probe into the misuse of the painkiller OxyContin, a prescription narcotic frequently doled out by doctors that can lead to severe addiction and death. The decision to launch the probe was prompted by a Toronto Star investigation that found OxyContin prescriptions paid for by Ontario's public drug plan had tripled in five years, making it one of the most popular drugs. Last year, \$54 million of the drug was prescribed, the majority to people on social assistance.

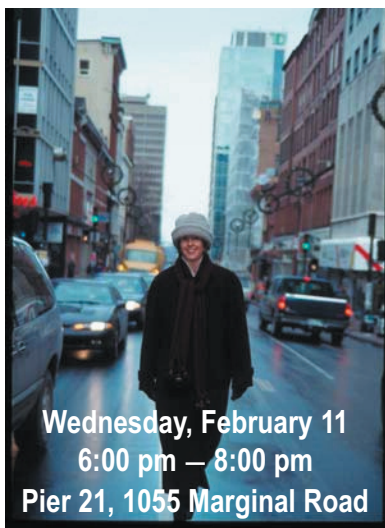
TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

LAB FIRMS Clinical research services providers, which have benefited in recent years from drugmakers increasingly farming out drug development, are seeing growth levels slowing as clients start delaying low-priority research to further cut costs in a recession.

REUTERS

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Metro's Kooolest Coffee Shop!

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Truex gets pole position for Daytona 500

Martin Truex Jr. won the pole for the season-opening Daytona 500 next Sunday while Mark Martin qualified second. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

Sports



Gold for Kucera

Calgary's John Kucera, left, became the first Canadian to win the men's downhill title at the world championships in Val d'Isere, France, on Saturday. Kucera had to watch 36 other competitors race after setting his time of two minutes, 7.01 seconds. Kucera was also the only Canadian to finish the race. Erik Guay of Mont-Tremblant, Que., Manuel Osborne-Paradis of Invermere, B.C., and Jan Hudec of Calgary all crashed out.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

EDITOR: JOHN CHICK, JOHN.CHICK@METRONews.CA

Canada lookin' good

VANCOUVER

2010 Games

The general consensus is that Canada has never experienced another sporting week like it just did internationally.

The podium parade continued yesterday with four gold medals at a World Cup short track meet in Bulgaria and Kristina Groves' silver medal at the world all-around championships in Norway.

This much can be guaranteed for one year from now: Canada's athletes are going to put on the best show ever seen by this country's at a Winter Olympics. You can pretty much guarantee they are going to win more medals than ever before, topping

the 24 at the 2006 Turin Games.

There appears to be too much depth in the ranks for that not too happen, with too many talented athletes and fine coaches.

A few examples to keep an eye on:

- Alex Bilodeau, moguls skier — This guy flies down the hill like the Grim Reaper's on his tail, and they have to notify air traffic control when he launches himself off the kicker.

- Matt Morison

Ottawa's Kristina Groves won silver yesterday at the World all-around speed skating championships in Norway.

— This 21-year-old snowboarder from Burketon, Ont., near Oshawa, has a world championship medal, World Cup wins and a winner's mentality without the cockiness.

- Joanne Rochette, figure skater — You've got to give props to someone who

wears a dominatrix outfit in the gala, as she did yesterday at the Four Continents Championships.

- Kristina Groves, speed skater — Canada hasn't missed a beat even with Cindy Klassen and Wotherspoon injured and she's a huge reason for that.

- The Gregg family — defenceman Randy Gregg left the Oilers for a year to play in the 1988 Winter Olympics. Now a doctor, he and his wife Kathy, a two-time Olympic speed skater, have a son and daughter who could be on the 2010 team. Jessica won a gold medal yesterday at the short-track World Cup, while Jamie is rising fast as a men's long-track sprinter.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE



NBA Lakers snap Cavs' streak



LeBron James is fouled by the Lakers' Pau Gasol in Cleveland yesterday. The Lakers handed the Cavaliers their first home loss this season, 101-91.

The heat's on A-Rod

A sense of shock and disappointment was voiced yesterday in the wake of a report that baseball's highest paid player Alex Rodriguez tested positive for steroids in 2003.

Major League Baseball withheld comment on Rodriguez after Saturday's Sports Illustrated report that the Yankees slugger was on a list of 104 players that tested positive in confidential testing. But not the nation's newspapers.

"A-ROID" shouted front page headlines in New York's Daily News and Newsday on Sunday.

"ROIDRIGUEZ" fronted the Trentonian of Trenton, N.J.

While Major League Baseball's drug policy banned the use of steroids without a valid prescription since 1991, there were no penalties for a positive test in 2003.

That year's confidential testing was conducted in agreement with the players union to determine if there would be mandatory random testing in 2004

— which was instituted after a threshold of five per cent positive

tests was exceeded.

Results of the confidential testing were obtained by the government in conjunction with the BALCO investigation and the alleged involvement of Bonds.

Major League Baseball president and chief operating officer Bob DuPuy said Sunday he was reserving comment on Rodriguez.

"I would prefer to see (the) entire article before commenting," he told Reuters in an email about the Sports Illustrated report initially posted on its website.

Baseball commentators felt compelled to react.

"So now we have it, the Great American Scandal," wrote Tony Massarotti of the Boston Globe. "Alex Rodriguez meets Steroids. Finally, we have an intersection of our soap operatic A-Rod obsession and the plague that infected our national pastime."

Rodriguez, the youngest player ever to hit 500 home runs and with a total of 553 at the age of 33 is on course to overtake

Bond's

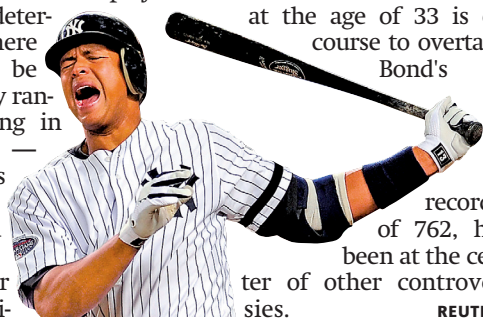
record

of 762, has

been at the center

of other controversies.

REUTERS



The Detroit Red Wings' Henrik Zetterberg hits Pittsburgh's Matt Cooke during the third period yesterday.

Conklin conquers Pens in Cup rematch

NHL RESULT

Red Wings 3 Penguins 0



Ty Conklin turned aside all 25 shots he faced to earn his sixth shutout of the season and Pavel Datyuk scored twice as the Detroit Red Wings defeated the Pittsburgh Penguins 3-0 at Mellon Arena.

Conklin, who was a member of the Penguins last season, picked up his 10th career shutout.

Marian Hossa also lit the lamp for Detroit, which has won four straight after losing the previous five contests. It was Hossa's first game in Pittsburgh since leaving the team as a free agent in the offseason.

These two clubs clashed in the 2008 Stanley Cup final, with the Red Wings capturing their fourth Stanley Cup title in 11 seasons and 11th overall in club history. It was the teams' first meeting at Mellon Arena since the Red Wings' Game 6 Cup-clinching 3-2 victory on June 4.

Marc-Andre Fleury stopped 26-of-29 shots for the Penguins, who had a brief two-game winning streak snapped. Pittsburgh has dropped four of six.

Detroit was without left-wing Tomas Holmstrom, who is scheduled to have hernia surgery and is expected to miss up to five weeks. Centre Johan Franzen also missed the contest after suffering a hand injury in the Wings' victory over Edmonton on Saturday.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

SCOREBOARD

QMJHL

SUNDAY'S RESULTS

Cape Breton 5 Rouyn-Noranda 1
Chicoutimi 4 Acadie-Bathurst 1
Moncton 3 Saint John 1
Montreal 4 Baie-Comeau 2
Quebec 3 Victoriaville 2
Rimouski 3 P.E.I. 1

SATURDAY'S RESULTS

Rimouski 4 HALIFAX 2
Acadie-Bathurst 5 P.E.I. 3
Drummondville 10 Lewiston 1
Gatineau 7 Montreal 5
Moncton 5 Chicoutimi 0
Quebec 6 Val-d'Or 3
Shawinigan 6 Victoriaville 5 (OT)

TOMORROW'S GAMES

Acadie-Bathurst at HALIFAX
Drummondville at Moncton

PBL

ATLANTIC CONFERENCE

W	L	PCT
Manchester	8	3 .727
Vermont	7	4 .636
HALIFAX	7	5 .583

x-Montreal 3 5 .375
Quebec 2 7 .222
x-no longer in PBL

NHL

SUNDAY'S RESULTS

Minnesota 3 Edmonton 2 (SO)
Dallas 4 Nashville 1
Detroit 3 Pittsburgh 0
Philadelphia 3 Atlanta 2

SATURDAY'S RESULTS

Toronto 5 Montreal 2
Anaheim 2 Calgary 1
Detroit 8 Edmonton 3
Ottawa 3 Buffalo 2 (SO)
Vancouver 7 Chicago 3
Carolina 7 Phoenix 2
Columbus 3 San Jose 2 (OT)
Los Angeles 3 New Jersey 1
Philadelphia 4 Boston 3 (OT)
St. Louis 4 Colorado 1
Tampa Bay 1 N.Y. Islanders 0
Washington 3 Florida 1

TONIGHT'S GAMES

N.Y. Rangers at New Jersey
Montreal at Calgary

NBA

SUNDAY'S RESULTS

L.A. Lakers 101 Cleveland 91
Miami 96 Charlotte 92
Orlando 101 New Jersey 84
Portland 109 New York 108
San Antonio 105 Boston 99
Washington 119 Indiana 117
Sacramento at Oklahoma City
Minnesota at New Orleans
Phoenix at Detroit
Utah at Golden State

SATURDAY'S RESULTS

Memphis 78 Toronto 70
Dallas 115 Chicago 114 (OT)
Detroit 126 Milwaukee 121 (OT)
Houston 107 Minnesota 90
L.A. Clippers 121 Atlanta 97
New Jersey 114 Denver 70
Philadelphia 94 Miami 84

TONIGHT'S GAMES

Phoenix at Philadelphia
L.A. Clippers at Charlotte
Houston at Milwaukee
New Orleans at Memphis

Big win for new coach

Halifax native leads Rainmen to first victory over the Frost Heaves

MATTHEW WUEST
matthew.wuest@metronews.ca

It took Les Berry just four days to accomplish what the Halifax Rainmen have been chasing for 15 months.

The Halifax native, hired as head coach of the Rainmen on Thursday, orchestrated a 108-97 triumph over the Vermont Frost Heaves yesterday, the franchise's first win over their toughest Premier Basketball League rival.

The Rainmen had failed in nine previous attempts against the Frost Heaves dating back to November 2007.

Energized by the return of star forward Eric Crookshank from a seven-game suspension, the Rainmen showcased a more dynamic offence, tighter defence and renewed intensity. The excitement came with 4,012 in the stands, the largest crowd in franchise history outside of a home opener.

"We all love this coach," raved Crookshank afterward. "We know we've got the coach we need now, and we're all saying the same thing, 'Let's go out and fight for him.'"

Berry spent his handful of practices instilling stronger defensive principles in the Rainmen, and it showed. They allowed fewer than 100 points for just the second time all year, including a season-low 14 points against in the second quarter. "You know what the dif-



The Halifax Rainmen got their first win against the Vermont Frost Heaves yesterday in a Premier Basketball League contest, their first game under new head coach Les Berry, a Halifax native.

ference was, coaching," said Rainmen guard Tony Bennett.

"No offence to (former head coach) Rick Lewis, but coach (Berry) knew exactly what he was doing when he came here and made us buy into it." The team watched video of the Frost Heaves before the game.

"With the prep we did, we knew where they were going to be before they got

there," Crookshank said, adding that Berry's new offensive sets were "unbelievable."

Crookshank subbed in midway through the first quarter and the Rainmen went on a 17-3 run to grab the lead.

Although Vermont narrowed the lead to one point in the fourth quarter, the Rainmen closed them out. Bennett was marvelous, fin-

ishing with a team-best 28 points and five assists, and Brian Silverhorn went 5-of-7 from three-point range for 25 points.

Crookshank finished with 14 points and eight rebounds.

"This whole week felt like Christmas," Crookshank quipped. "Today I finally opened my presents."

So if the Rainmen progressed as they think they

did in four days under Berry, where could they be in a month?

"One word," said Bennett. "Championship."

• Halifax, 7-5, is still third in the Atlantic Conference ... The Rainmen played most of the game without star Rob Sanders, who subbed out with a hip injury ... Berry has hired former King's College head coach Jeff Paris as an assistant.

Huskies lose to Reds in OT

HOCKEY The Saint Mary's Huskies men's hockey team's bid to clinch a first-round bye will come down to the wire.

The Huskies suffered a 4-3 overtime loss to the first-place New Brunswick Varsity Reds on Saturday before a packed house of 3,869 at the Aitken Centre in Fredericton, N.B.

A win would have virtually assured the second-place Huskies (18-7-1) a bye to the Atlantic University Sport semifinals. Only two games remain in the regular season.

The Dalhousie Tigers (4-21-1) lost a pair of games and have now dropped 11 straight and 18 of their past 19.

METRO HALIFAX

Winning streak over for Tigers

BASKETBALL The Dalhousie Tigers saw a 10-game winning streak come to a halt against the Memorial Sea-Hawks yesterday.

The third-place Tigers (11-4) dropped their first game since Nov. 14, falling 65-62 at Dalplex to second-place Memorial in Atlantic University Sport women's basketball play.

In men's play, the third-place Tigers (9-5) walloped the Sea-Hawks by 34- and 39-point margins, while the Saint Mary's Huskies (9-6) split a pair of road games against the New Brunswick Varsity Reds.

METRO HALIFAX

Double victory for Tigers in pool

SWIMMING The Dalhousie Tigers cleaned up at the Atlantic University Sport swimming championships at Dalplex yesterday.

The Tigers piled up 684 points to win the men's crown, well ahead of the second-place New Brunswick Varsity Reds. The women had 663 points, while the Reds had 116.

METRO HALIFAX

Sports in brief

HOCKEY The Halifax Lions lost 5-2 to the host Dieppe Commandos in Maritime Junior A Hockey League play yesterday. Halifax is 7-36-2, last in the Bent Division.

METRO HALIFAX



Mooseheads forward Travis Randell says the team has been playing "real good hockey" in recent games.

Mooseheads split weekend

MATTHEW WUEST
matthew.wuest@metronews.ca

The Halifax Mooseheads ended the weekend the same way they started it — four points out of a playoff spot.

The Mooseheads remain in last place in the QMJHL after a pair of strong efforts on the weekend. They beat the Rouyn-Noranda Huskies 4-2 on Friday and lost to Logan MacMillan and the Rimouski Oceanic 5-2 on Saturday.

Halifax (15-33-3-2, 35 points) must pass Lewiston (38 points) and either Baie-Comeau or Val-d'Or (39 points each) in the final 15 games to qualify for the post-season.

The good news is, they've

"We're in a tough stretch right now, fighting for a playoff spot, and we've got to keep this up."

Travis Randell, Mooseheads forward

won two of three and played well in the loss. That's a hot streak in Moose Country.

"As of late, especially, we've been playing real good hockey against real good teams," said Mooseheads forward Travis Randell. "We're in a tough stretch right now, fighting for a playoff spot, and we've got to keep this up."

Bright spots for the

Mooseheads on the weekend were rookie forwards Gabriel Desjardins and Gerard Grant. Each earned three-star selections and had two-way impacts. It was MacMillan's first game back at the Metro Centre after being traded from Halifax to Rimouski in December. He picked up a pair of assists coming back from injury.

"It was fun ... It made it a lot better, us coming out on top," said MacMillan. "I thought it would be really weird, but I just went to the bench, watched the seats crowd up a little ... It was similar to how it was on the other side." Halifax hosts the Bathurst Titan tomorrow before departing later in the week for Quebec for a three-game road trip.



For more sports coverage, visit us online at www.metronews.ca/sports

Metro Workology exclusive: Matters of the Heart

Don't miss Matters of the Heart, Metro's exclusive feature series in the Workology section. There are jobs to be had that focus on falling in love, falling out of love and everything in between; we will be digging up the stories for you, so check for Workology on Mondays and Metronews.ca/work as well.

11

Workology

EDITOR: DOUGLAS DUNLOP, DOUGLAS.DUNLOP@METRONEWS.CA

College boosted by bad times?

The global economic downturn's impact on the job market is forcing some graduates to reconsider the value of their college degree, observes Walt Gardner in the Christian Science Monitor. There is a difference between learning for the sake of learning and learning relevant to making a living. Not intended to be trade schools, colleges are designed to develop the skills essential to lifelong learning, Gardner writes. **MERO NEWS SERVICES**

Planning your special day



Wedding planner Leah Elliott says she always tears up when the bride and groom kiss at the end of one of her weddings.

Matters of the Heart

RAFAEL BRUSLOW
for Metro Canada

Professional wedding planner Leah Elliott is a master of keeping her cool but when that fateful day of vows and kisses comes, she still cries every time.

Elliott, owner of Elan Wedding Consultants Inc., started the company in 2001 but had never thought of herself as an entrepreneur. She previously worked in administration and got into wedding planning by accident as a favour to her friends. Eventually she got so many requests that she figured it was time to go professional.

"I got to a point where I figured I have to start charging!" she joked.

As a wedding planner Elliott says her job is to take away all the stress and challenge of organizing the details of a wed-

Elephant?

Leah Elliott has had to do some very interesting things as a wedding planner — including bringing an elephant into Toronto's upscale Yorkville neighbourhood. You can visit her site at elan-weddings.com.



Leah Elliott

ding and let the happy couple instead focus on visualizing their dream wedding. Unlike the stereotype of some fussy old lady who thinks she knows what's best for a couple, Elliott says she is only interested in making sure the day goes exactly the way a couple wants.

"My main goal is to make sure the client is happy. I'm there to guide people and to make suggestions but I leave the final decisions up to the couple. People who know

what they want are very easy to deal with — it's only when people are indecisive that it's hard," Elliott said.

"I'm there to guide people and to make suggestions but I leave the final decisions up to the couple."

Leah Elliott

matters in-person and keep a high level of service quality. She says planning weddings in a city like Toronto keeps her job exciting because the city is such a melting pot and each wedding can be full

of surprises. Case in point: For one wedding, Elliott brought an elephant into Toronto's Yorkville area.

"There are so many cultures in Toronto that it keeps it fresh. I enjoy that," she said.

Unlike many planners who charge a percentage of the total wedding budget as their fee, Elliott only ever charges a flat fee and warns people to accept nothing less from a reputable planner.

"Charging a percentage of your budget is a conflict of interest — what's the incentive to keep costs down?" she said.

Working so closely with a bride and groom often means Elliott still gets emotional on a wedding day but she wouldn't have it any other way.

"I've always said the day I stop crying at weddings is the day I quit."

For more Matters of the Heart exclusive series check the Workology section Monday or stop by Metronews.ca/work

Skating away with it

OddJobs

Diane Peters



If you've ever skated down Ottawa's famous Rideau Canal — perhaps during Winterlude, which is on right now — you have Alain Nantel to thank for the ice beneath your skates.

While Mother Nature, of course, takes care of the basics of freezing the 7.8 km skateway, it's Nantel, 38, and his staff that make sure the ice is just right.

"I go out on the ice every day," says Nantel, co-ordinator of operations, facilities and programs for the National Capital Commission (NCC). Usually on skates, he checks out the ice to

make sure it's smooth, safe and free of snow.

He's in charge of the contractors who shovel the canal — snow not only gets in the way of skaters, but it weighs down the ice and insulates it, causing it to melt — and those who nightly spray it with water to create a flat skating surface.

Every two or three days, he winds an auger through the ice to take a carrot-shaped sample.

He's looking for 30 cm of good quality ice with his sample: Clear ice is the best stuff, white ice is made of water and snow, and it's not as stable.

Nantel's not a scientist. In fact, the Ottawa native — who grew up an avid skier and canal skater — studied business in college. His summer jobs always seemed to revolve around special events.

Eleven years ago he started working for the NCC, doing various jobs,

The Lowdown

Job title: Co-ordinator of the Rideau Canal Skateway

Salary: Fixed government salary

Education: Experience with special events, knowledge of the science of ice

Best part of the job: "Knowing you're working on a world-class facility."

Worst part of the job: "The cold."

mostly related to special events. Four years ago, he started taking care of the skateway, which is in its 39th season this year.

Critical decisions about the ice, such as when to open the skateway (Jan. 1 this year), are taken care of by the NCC's ice safety committee, a panel of experts.

But Nantel knows his ice too, thanks to on-the-job experience, plus the help of the NCC's comprehensive technical and



The Rideau Canal Skateway.

safety manual on ice care. The document was created several years ago, combining information from experienced staff with scientific data.

This ice bible helps Nantel determine, among oth-

er things where to place vendors' tents for events such as Winterlude: If they're too heavy and too close together, they could sink or crack the ice.

When the ice is gone in spring and summer, Nan-

tel keeps busy overseeing special events held at the NCC's parks throughout Ottawa.

Diane Peters once hawked magic pens at the Canadian National Exhibition. She's now a writer and part-time journalism instructor.

NCC [PHOTO]

Swanson and Eisler get hitched
Skating with Celebrities winners Kristy Swanson and Lloyd Eisler — who skated for Canada in the Olympics — were married on Saturday. The actress and the skating champ met while competing on the Fox reality show three years ago. **PEOPLE.COM**

Entertainment

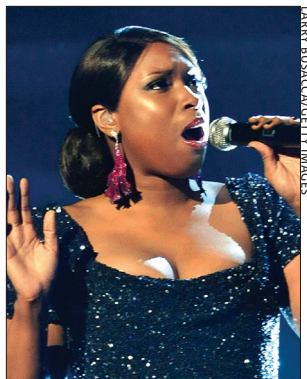
EDITOR: DEAN LISK, DEAN.LISK@METRONEWS.CA

Danes to wed

Claire Danes and Hugh Dancy are getting married, a rep for the pair confirmed. Danes, 29, and Dancy, 33, met while filming *Evening in Newport, R.I.*, and had been dating for more than a year. **PEOPLE.COM**



Alison Krauss and Robert Plant won five Grammys.



Jennifer Hudson won the Grammy for best R&B recording.

Plant, Krauss top Grammys

Rock icon, bluegrass queen take home five awards

Former Led Zeppelin singer Robert Plant received a “whole lotta love” at the Grammy Awards on Sunday, winning five prizes including album of the year for an acclaimed collaboration with bluegrass queen Alison Krauss.

The 60-year-old musician, enshrined in rock annals as the golden-haired, bare-chested singer for one of the biggest bands of the 1970s, was one of several British artists to take center stage at the music industry’s top honors.

Other compatriots included rock band Coldplay,

who won three awards, including song of the year, and 20-year-old rookie Adele, who was named best new artist.

R&B star Chris Brown inadvertently supplied some last-minute fireworks. The two-time nominee canceled a scheduled performance amid reports that he was involved in a domestic-violence incident in the early hours of Sunday. His girlfriend, three-time nominee Rihanna, also scrapped her planned appearance.

Plant and Krauss, 37, swept all five categories in which they were also nominated. They also won song



Rappers T.I., from left, Jay-Z, and Lil Wayne perform during the Grammy Awards last night.

of the year, and prizes in the pop, folk/Americana, and country categories.

“I’m bewildered,” Plant said upon winning album of the year, the event’s final prize. “In the old days, we would have called this selling out, but I think it’s a good way to spend a Sunday.”

Rapper Lil Wayne won four Grammys, including best rap album for *Tha Carter III*, the biggest-selling U.S. release of 2008. He led the field with eight nominations in six categories.

Coldplay, which followed with seven nominations, ended up with three Grammys. They won song of the year for *Viva La Vida*, the chart-topping hit that inspired a plagiarism lawsuit from virtuoso guitarist Joe Satriani, who claims that it rips off one of his tunes.

Plant and Krauss’ *Raising Sand*, on which the odd couple reworked old folk ballads and R&B chestnuts, was an instant critical and commercial hit. Plant scuttled a much-rumored Led Zeppelin reunion by opting to tour Europe and America with Krauss instead.

With 26 wins, Krauss now ties with French conductor Pierre Boulez as the third-most-honored artist in the Grammys’ 51-year-



Best rock album nominees Kings Of Leon on the red carpet.

“In the old days, we would have called this selling out, but I think it’s a good way to spend a Sunday.” Robert Plant

history. The only artists ahead of her are late classical conductor Sir Georg Solti with 31, and prolific producer/composer Quincy Jones with 27.

Led Zeppelin were never honored during their active years between 1968 and 1980, the year the band broke up following the death of drummer John Bonham. Plant’s sole wins to date were for a 1990s collaboration with former bandmate Jimmy Page and for a *Raising Sand* tune with Krauss last year.

REUTERS



U2’s Bono performs new single *Get on Your Boots* during the Grammy Awards.



Canadian Jason Reitman and Margaret Yen took home the Grammy for best compilation soundtrack album for a motion picture for *Juno*.

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Baby Aniston

Grey's Anatomy actress Chyler Leigh is planning to name her new baby Aniston. Leigh, 26, who plays intern Lexie on the ABC medical drama, is due in May. [USMAGAZINE.COM](#)



Snuggle in front of these

Only a few more days till Valentine's Day, folks. Establishing a romantic mood is essential, and it's never too early to start. And, as is often the case, television can provide an easy, inexpensive, low-maintenance alternative as a lead-up to the main event:

YOUNG LOVE

Was there ever a more classic tale of unrequited love than the saga of Charlie Brown and the Little Red-Haired Girl? Their star-crossed affair plays out yet again Tuesday night at 8 p.m. EST on ABC, in A Charlie Brown Valentine, a 2002 special produced two years after the death of Peanuts papa Charles Schulz. Filling out the hour is the original 1975 'toon, Be My Valentine, Charlie Brown.

DATE NIGHT AT THE MOVIES

Toss a bag of popcorn in the microwave, crack open a bottle of wine and enjoy some of the most romantic movies ever to hit the big screen. Most of them, oddly enough, are airing in the



Bridges of Madison County features a top-notch cast.

Valentine's Day

morning. Romeo & Juliet: It all starts here, first with Shakespeare, and then the 1936 movie version with Norma Shearer and Leslie Howard as the titular doomed lovers, with John Barrymore along to lend gravitas. TCM Canada, Tuesday, 12:30 p.m. Love Story: Love means never having to say you're sorry. An often useful, if unrealistic sentiment, first coined by Ali MacGraw in the 1970 romance classic, also starring Ryan O'Neal before he got all wrinkled and scary. It's on Friday at 7:40 a.m. and 4:40 p.m. on The Movie Network's MR-

PIX.

Gone with the Wind: One of the most romantic movies of all time stars Clark Gable and Vivienne Leigh, airing on MRPIX Wednesday at an appropriately cuddly 11:50 p.m., basking in the warm afterglow of Atlanta on fire. Working Girl: Harrison Ford and Melanie Griffith, lots of bad '80s fashion - what more could you want? Thursday at 5:30 p.m. on AMC Canada, a Bridges of Madison County: Craggy Clint Eastwood woos a married Meryl Streep, and the screen ain't big enough for both of them. But if you've got a big-screen TV - and even if you don't - you will get completely sucked in to this compelling tale

of middle-aged attraction. SUNTV has it Tuesday at 8 p.m., with CTV re-running it late on the night of V-Day, at 12:05 a.m., actually five minutes into the morning after. Out of Africa: Even more lovestruck Meryl a world away in Kenya, in the biographical romance airing Monday at 3:10 p.m. on MRPIX.

REALLY REEL ROMANCE

Fantasy's fine, but let's get real. Thursday's CBC Doc Zone has the ultimate happily-ever-after with Love Interrupted, two Romeo & Juliet-ish tales of young couples driven apart by race, religion, class and/or parental disapproval, who somehow manage to reunite later on in life. That starts at 9 p.m. From reunion back to separation, the second season of CBC's hit reality show, The Week the Women Went is the ultimate way to tell your loved one how much they are wanted and needed, airing Wednesdays at 8 p.m. on CBC. **TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE**

Slumdog, Milk take top writing awards

Rags-to-riches romance Slumdog Millionaire furthered its winning streak in Hollywood's awards season Saturday, earning best adapted screenplay for writer Simon Beaufoy from the Writers Guild of America.

Milk, about slain, 1970s-era gay politician Harvey Milk, grabbed best original screenplay for Dustin Lance Black who gave an impassioned speech challenging the gay community to re-energize itself in the struggle for gay equality. Black talked about how Milk's legacy inspired him to dream that one day his screenplay could be made into a film and reach as many people as it had with a message of hope. "Big dreams are how change really happens," Black told the audience of film and television writers. "Join me in continuing this fight for civil rights." But the night truly belonged to Slumdog, which tells of a young Indian boy who competes for love and money on a TV game show.



Sean Penn stars in Milk.

Together with the WGA's honour, it has now earned top awards from the other major Hollywood guilds and is the clear frontrunner for the best movie Oscar. The Oscars, given out by the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences on Feb. 22, and many of the guild members also belong to the academy making their awards key indicators of winners of Academy Awards, the world's top film honours. **REUTERS**

Box office

- Following are the top 10 films at the North American box office for the three-day weekend beginning on Feb. 6, according to studio estimates:
- 1 **He's Just Not That Into You:** \$27.5 million US
 - 2 **Taken:** \$20.3 million
 - 3 **Coraline:** \$16.3 million
 - 4 **The Pink Panther 2:** \$12 million
 - 5 **Paul Blart: Mall Cop:** \$11 million
 - 6 **Push:** \$10.2 million
 - 7 **Slumdog Millionaire:** \$7.4 million
 - 8 **Gran Torino:** \$7.2 million
 - 9 **The Uninvited:** \$6.4 million
 - 10 **Hotel for Dogs:** \$5.8 million

REUTERS

GlobalStyle

Kenya Hunt

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critics' corner

Little Mosque on the Prairie An imam with his own agent - who'd have thought it? In this new episode, Amaar (Zaib Shaikh) would like a raise, but he's getting nowhere with his humble attempts to ask nicely for one. Enter Fred (Neil Crone), who appoints himself Amaar's agent and abandons the Mr. Nice Guy approach in going after mosque treasurer Baber (Manoj Sood) for more money for his "client." Sitara Hewitt also stars in "Raised Expectations." 8 PM on CBC



Sophie Enough already! She's got a kid, remember? After breaking up with Tiago (Gianni Falcone), Matt (Jeff Geddys) goes on a bar-hopping binge, dragging Sophie (Natalie Brown) along. When she's had enough, she seeks help from her new neighbor in getting out of Matt's clutches. Estelle (Sara Botsford) gets involved in a role-playing exercise at Matt's hospital in the new episode "You've Got Fe-Mail." 8:30 PM on CBC

Paranormal State It's beginning to seem that in addition to the required home inspection prior to buying a new place, homeowners might want to consider a quick exorcism for good measure. You know, just to be on the safe side. This week, a close-knit family in Kentucky has been visited by the spirit of a girl since moving into its new home. 11 PM on A&E

HA	H	D	B	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00
29/09	31	31	31	ABC	News (N)	ABC Wild News	Inside Edition	Chronicle	The Bachelor (N)			True Beauty
	7	7	7	ASN	The Road to Avonlea		Instant Star	TMZ (N)	Gossip Girl (HDTV)	Ghost Whisperer		Medium
	11	11	11	CBC	Coronation St.	Jeopardy! (N)	Little Mosque	Sophie (N)	Just for Laughs (N)	CBC News: The National		The Hour
	2	2	2	CBC-F	Terre humaine	Pyramide (SC)	Virginie (SC)	Les Parent (N)	L'Auberge du chien noir (SC)	Les Boys (SC)	Tout sur moi	Le Téléjournal
	32	32	32	CBS	News (N)	Evening News	The Insider (N)	Entertainment	Big Bang Th	How I Met	Two/Half Men	Worst Week
	69	69	69	CFTM	TVA 18 heures	Le Cercle (SC)	Les Gags	Star Académie:	Annie et ses hommes (N) (SC)	Dr. House (HDTV) (SC)		TVA 22 heures
	6	6	6	CHIF	Entertainment	ET Canada	Heroes (HDTV) (N)		House "Unfaithful" (N)	24 (HDTV PA) (N)		News (N)
	9	9	9	CJCH	etalk	Hollywood	CSI: Miami (HDTV) (N)		Big Bang Th	Gary Unmarr	Two/Half Men	Corner Gas (N)
	10	10	10	ELTV	EastLink Mag.	Fishing	Harv's Sportsland (Live)		Build It	Harv's Sportsland		EastLink Television
	36	36	36	FOX	Deal-No Deal	The Simpsons	Two/Half Men	Two/Half Men	House "Unfaithful" (N)	24 (HDTV PA) (N)		Fox First
primetime	12	12	12	NBC	News (N)	NBC News	Hollywood	Extra (N)	Presidential News Conference	Heroes (HDTV) (N)		Medium
	29	29	29	NW	World News	Business	CBC News	Newman	The Hour	CBC News: The National		Crash
	4	4	4	PBS-B	NewsHour With Jim Lehrer		Greater Boston	Chronicles	Antiques Roadshow (N)		American Experience (HDTV) (N)	(DVS)
	35	35	35	PBS-D	NewsHour With Jim Lehrer		Business Rpt.	Worldfocus	Antiques Roadshow (N)		American Experience (HDTV) (N)	(DVS)
	68	68	68	TQS	(6:30) Le Retour (SC)		Beauté	C'tune joke	CSI: NY "Jeux d'enfants" (SC)		La Porte des étoiles (SC)	110 pour cent
	23	96	96	BNN	Business News	Headline	Market Call	Berman's Call	Money Talks	Financ-Future	Squeeze Play	Market Call
	18	18	18	CNN	(5) The Situation Room		Lou Dobbs Tonight		Campbell Brown: No Bias		Larry King Live	Cooper 360
	54	54	54	GOLF	Golf Central	Top 10	Learning	Golf Hawaii	The Golf Fix	Top 10	Johnny Miller	Tiger Woods
	52	52	52	RSE	Sportsnet Connected		Skiing FIS Ski Cross.		College Hockey Bearpot Tournament	Final -- Teams To Be Announced.		
	55	55	55	SCOR	Hockey Talk	Game On	RaceNight				(10:15) WWE Monday Night Raw	
news	45	45	45	SPD	Unique Whips		Pinks (HDTV)	Pass Time (N)	Speed Report Special Edition		This Week in NASCAR (N)	Auctions
	53	53	53	TSN	Off the Record	SportsCentre	NHL Hockey New York Rangers at New Jersey Devils. (HDTV) (Live)				SportsCentre	
	43	43	43	FAM	Zoeys 101	Life Derek	Wizards-Place	Han. Montana	Zack & Cody	Latest Buzz	Wizards-Place	Life Derek
	44	44	44	TOON	Ben 10	Johnny Test	Totally Spies	Total Drama	6TEEN	6TEEN	Futurama	Punch
	26	26	26	TREE	Max & Ruby	Backyardigans	Wonder Pets	Nght Grdn	Friend Rabbit	Franklin	Little Bear	Miss Spider
	27	27	27	YTV	Drake & Josh	iCarly	Adrenaline Proj	Prank Patrol	Malcolm-Mid.	Futurama	Prank Patrol	Zixx Level
	16	16	16	A&E	Cold Case Files		CSI: Miami (HDTV)		Intervention "Sylvia"		Intervention "Angelina"	Paranormal
	70	70	70	APTN	News		Notre People		Terres arct.	Mishkuenita	Windigo *** (1994, Drame) Donald Morin.	
	50	50	50	BET	106 & Park	Diary of a Mad Black Woman ** (2005, Comedy-Drama)	Kimberly Elise.				The BET Honors (N)	
	37	37	37	BRVO	Street Legal		Hot Dance	Dance With Me	Vida Y Danza, Cuba		Willie Nelson-Wynton Marsalis	
sports	25	25	25	CMT	Dedicated		All About (N)	All About ...	Home Improve.	Home Improve.	Reba	Reba
	49	49	49	COM	Laughs	Comedy Now	Air Farce	Just for Laughs		Corner Gas	The Simpsons	South Park
	153	153	153	COURT	W-FIVE		World's Wildest Police Videos		Cops Uncut	Dumb Criminal	Legal Briefs	Police Videos
	38	38	38	DISC	Canada's Worst Handyman I		Daily Planet (N)		MythBusters		Dirty Jobs "Egg Farm"	Vermintors
	34	48	48	HGTV	Holmes on Homes		House Hunters	Property Virgin	For Rent	Income Prop.	Property Virgin	House Hunters
	46	46	46	HIST	Underground War		NCIS "Trojan Horse"		Battle 360		Underground War	NCIS
	17	17	17	MM	Video on Trial	Video on Trial	Meet Barkers	Meet Barkers	Instant Star	Instant Star	MuchTopTens	
	19	19	19	MMM	MusicProfile	mmmtop10.com	Revival		Listed		Don't Forget the Lyrics!	Don't Forget
	201	201	201	M1	Where Is Osama bin Laden		Stargate Atlantis		Sanctuary "Folding Man"		U.S. of Tara	Secret Diary
	48	23	23	OLN	American Gladiators		Bounty Hunter	Bounty Hunter	Survivorman (N)		Mantracker	Bounty Hunter
family	51	51	51	PEACH	Seinfeld	Friends	House-Payne	House-Payne	House-Payne	House-Payne	House-Payne	Welcome to
	206	206	206	PIX	(6) The Frisco Kid		(8:10) Perfectly Normal ** (1991, Comedy)				Friday the 13th Part VII -- The New Blood	
	67	67	67	RDI	RDI en direct	RDI en direct	24 Heures en 60 minutes		Grands reportages (SC)		Le Téléjournal (SC)	RDI en direct
	39	39	39	SHOW	Wife Swap		The Outer Limits		Kink in Hair	Kink in Hair	Retail (N)	Rent-A-Goalie
	40	40	40	SLICE	X-Weighted "Jeremy"		Til Debt-Part	Rich Poor	Til Debt-Part	Til Debt-Part	Tabatha's Salon Takeover	Runway
	47	47	47	SPACE	Stargate SG-1		Stargate Atlantis (DVS)		Lost "Solitary"		Star Trek: Voyager	Ghost Hunters
	14	14	14	SPIKE	CSI: NY "Hostage"		CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.		CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.		CSI: NY "Hostage"	CSI: Crime Scn
	57	98	98	STAR	etalk	Hollywood	The Ellen DeGeneres Show (N)		TMZ (N)	etalk	First Class All the Way	Tonight Show
	21	21	21	TLC	What Not to Wear		Kids by the Dozen		Little People	Little People	Jon & Kate	Jon & Kate
	56	34	34	TROP	What Happen?	What Happen?	TV Made, Do It	News Show	Tube Tales	E News	Make or Break	TV Made, Do It
cable variety	20	20	20	TV5	(6:55) Cible	Journal de Fr2	Mot de passe		Questions pour un champion "Spéciale campus"			Club social
	28	28	28	V	Nothing Too Good		Murder, She Wrote		Eyes Down	May-December	McLeod's Daughters (N)	God Bless
	60	97	97	VIVA	Mysterious Ways		Judging Amy		Commander In Chief		Commander In Chief	Dollars
	22	22	22	W	Style by Jury	Style by Jury	Will & Grace	Friends	How Clean	Kim	Love It or List It	Dollars
	251	251	251	WGN	Be-Millionaire	Evening News	Two/Half Men	Family Guy	Gossip Girl (HDTV)		One Tree Hill (HDTV)	WGN News



Kate Moss and Anglea Lindvall have been unveiled as the stars of Stella McCartney's latest fashion ad campaign, femalefirst.co.uk reports. The spring/summer '09 line, shot on location in Puerto Rico was photographed by Ryan McGinley. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

Celebrity Buzz

Clooney and Margulies are still good friends

FRIENDSHIP Former ER lovers George Clooney and Julianna Margulies are still crazy for each other after all these years — as pals, that is, people.com reports.

The actors — who played the dashing Dr. Doug Ross and his onscreen love, nurse Carol Hathaway — recently reunited for the medical drama's final season.

"It's been nine years and it was like we'd never been apart," Margulies told eyebrow guru Ramy Gafni, who recently tended to her famous brows at his RamySpa in Manhattan people.com says.

"She said, 'The chemistry was still there.' She said she loves him to pieces and that

he's such a great guy," says Gafni.

In the final season, viewers will finally find out what became of Ross and his onscreen flame, who never married in the earlier episodes. Clooney, 47, left the show in 1999 for movie stardom, winning an Oscar for 2005's *Syriana*. Margulies, 42, who exited ER in 2000, and her husband, attorney Keith

Lieberthal, had their first child, Kieran, in January.

NBC and Warner Bros. declined to comment on the casting of ER's final season. But on Jan. 26, Clooney told People magazine of his return to County General, "It was fun to be back and it was good to see those guys."

Margulies's rep has previously confirmed she will return to the show. The final episode of ER will air April 2 on NBC.

METRO NEWS SERVICES



GETTY IMAGES PHOTOS

Houston makes stunning return

CAREER Stunning-looking and strong-sounding Whitney Houston made a triumphant return to the stage at a pre-Grammy party honouring her mentor, music mogul Clive Davis, wonderwall.com reports.

"I've got it, I've got it!" Houston, looking glamorous in a skintight leopard dress, sang early Sunday morning as she belted a line from one of her classic hits, I'm Every Woman.

But more than a lyric, the website says the performance summarized to the crowd of A-list superstars and top industry execs that the superstar — whose drug use and erratic behavior had caused a shocking fall from grace just a few years ago — was back in top form.

METRO NEWS SERVICES



Rihanna reveals her humanitarian side

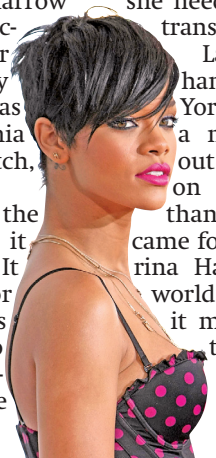
CHARITY Rihanna is stepping forward to help a five-year-old New York City girl find a bone marrow donor — the second time in a year that the Grammy Award winner has helped a leukemia victim seek a match, says people.com

"When I saw the video of Jasmina it broke my heart. It is so unfair that for a black patient it's so much harder to find a bone marrow match," the

singer tells People magazine exclusively. "Jasmina has acute leukemia and she needs a bone marrow transplant to live."

Last February, Rihanna helped New Yorker Lisa Flynn find a match by putting out a call for donors on People.com. More than 5,000 donors came forward, says Katharina Harf of DKMS, the world's largest non-profit marrow donor center.

METRO NEWS SERVICES



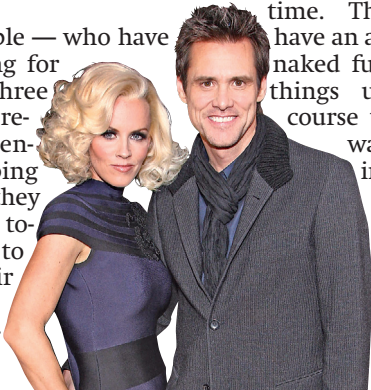
Jim & Jenny's naked days

COUPLE Jim Carrey and Jenny McCarthy have naked days, femalefirst.co.uk reports.

The couple — who have been dating for around three years — reportedly enjoy stripping off when they are alone together to keep their relationship exciting.

A source said: "When they're alone they prefer to be nude most of the time. They always have an afternoon of naked fun. It spices things up. But of course they are always dressed in public."

METRO NEWS SERVICES



Usher's family crisis

PEOPLE Usher is dealing with a family crisis, eonline.com reports.

Record mogul Clive Davis shocked guests at his annual star-studded pre-Grammys party Saturday night when he announced that the R&B superstar would not be performing as planned.

Davis, president of Usher's J Records label, announced that the entertainer and his mother phoned earlier to cancel his rehearsal and subsequent performance at the Beverly Hilton because of a "serious illness in the family." Reps for

Usher declined to comment or elaborate on the sad news, but a source close to the 30-year-old denies rumours that his wife, Tameka Foster, 37, had died following plastic surgery. Access Hollywood does report, however, that Foster did suffer complications from a cosmetic procedure in Brazil.

The couple have been married since August 2007 and have two children. Foster formerly worked as Usher's stylist.

METRO NEWS SERVICES



Paltrow reaches out to Allen

PEOPLE Hollywood actress Gwyneth Paltrow has come to the defence of British pop star Lily Allen — urging the press to leave the singer alone.

Paltrow knows Allen through the Smile hit-maker's screenwriter mother, Allison Owen, who worked with the actress on two films — 2003's *Sylvia* and *Proof* in 2005.

And the Iron Man star is adamant the wide media coverage of Allen's personal life is unfair be-

cause the 23-year-old is so young for her age.

Paltrow tells Britain's Elle magazine, "The way I feel about that is: Shame on you. They're doing that to a child! Lily is not a woman yet."

"She'll be OK because she's a smart girl, and very talented. But this is a big test to get when you're her age. But in a way, if it makes her go in a good direction, what a blessing. Think about all the crap she's got out of the way."

METRO NEWS SERVICES



Director defends Bale's outburst

CONTROVERSY Though Christian Bale himself called his F-bomb outburst on the Terminator Salvation set "inexcusable," the film's director is coming to the star's defence, people.com reports.

"The film set is a passionate place, and it happens," director McG told fans at a Warner Bros. preview panel at New York Comic Con on Saturday.

"There was no version of, 'Oh, Christian is going to whip his ass.' It was

just sort of a blowup, "We let it run its course, and it did. You obviously only get to hear the explicit parts," he said.

Bale verbally bashed the film's director of photography, Shane Hurlbut, after he accidentally entered the actor's sight lines during filming. The audiotape quickly went viral, sparking mixed reactions, but the on-set drama ended that day, McG insists.

METRO NEWS SERVICES



Drew turns to food when upset

RELATIONSHIPS Drew Barrymore mends her broken heart by eating cheese, femalefirst.co.uk reports.

The He's Just That Not Into You actress, who has been married twice, can't help indulging in processed dairy products when her love life is floundering.

When asked what she does after a romance ends, Barrymore replied: "Head straight for the carbs. Macaroni and cheese. Kraft. Deluxe. The kind with the cheese you

squeeze out of a bag that takes at least a month to pass through your body."

METRO NEWS SERVICES



Despite critics, Simpson shows off

IMAGE After more than a week of battling body bulies and fashion critics, Jessica Simpson showed off her figure in a tiny pair of Daisy Duke-style short-shorts onstage in Grand Rapids, Mich., Thursday night, people.com reports.

"She looked phenomenal," gushed concert-goer Scott Pierce, 27, a local Internet technology sales rep.

But Simpson — who seemed nervous and tentative at times — told the crowd of 15,000 that it had been "a rough week."

METRO NEWS SERVICES



Winehouse curbs cravings with pot

ADDICTION Amy Winehouse has allegedly found just the thing to keep her cravings for drugs and alcohol down: Marijuana.

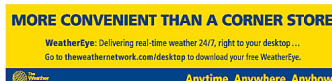
According to U.K. tabloid the Sun, the troubled singer has been smoking as many as 10 joints a day while hiding out in St. Lucia. "Amy hasn't touched crack or cocaine for months," a friend tells the newspaper.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

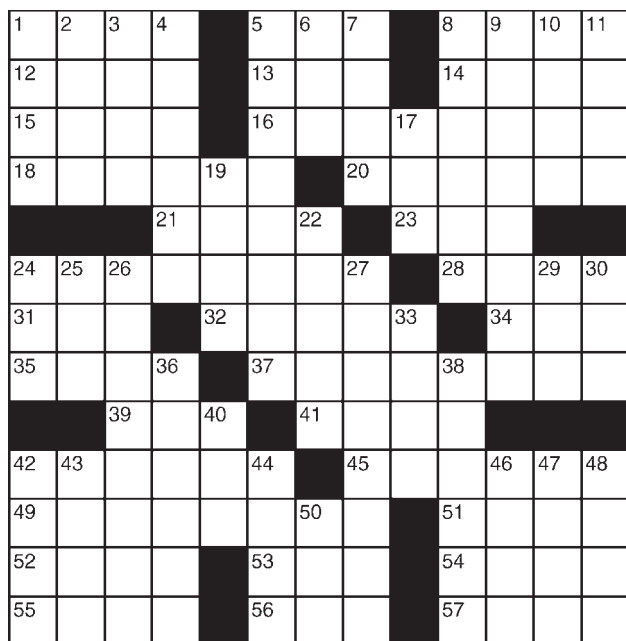




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For more delicious Metro recipes, visit: metronews.ca/food

Take Five



Crossword across

- 1 Scolded
5 Young lion
8 Skaters' venue
12 Dorothy's destination
13 Work with
14 Mideast port city ...
15 ... and a dweller therein
16 Soft fabric
18 Grayish red
20 Long, harsh speech
21 House section
23 Cauldron
24 Heavy military footwear
28 Makes a hole
31 Rowing prop
32 Missionary Junipero
- 34 Unit
35 Commandment pronoun
37 "Sinkers"
39 "That tastes awful!"
41 Infamous lyre player
42 Damage
45 Household linens
49 Agree
51 Pelvic bones
52 Evidenced a pinprick
53 Frank McCourt book
54 — and void
55 "— Breckinridge"
56 Type squares
57 Mirth

Crossword down

- 1 African nation
2 Circle dance
3 Mosque VIP
4 Go ashore
5 Repeated monotonously
6 Mex. neighbor
7 A-number-1
8 Rifleman's tamping device
9 Act of thinking
10 Dweeb
11 Leg joint
17 With it
19 Weeps loudly
22 Dunderhead
24 Make marginal notes
25 "That feels good"
26 Casino employee
- 27 Actuality
29 Wildebeest
30 Prepared
33 Taj Mahal city
36 Kampala's country
38 Optimistic
40 Toper's interruption
42 Cold War weapon (Abbr.)
43 Magical herb of myth
44 Ceremony
46 Hebrew month
47 Anger
48 Harvard's rival
50 Poorly lit

PREVIOUS DAY'S CROSSWORD AND SUDOKU ANSWERS:



7	9	1	5	8	2	4	3	6
2	4	8	3	6	9	7	5	1
5	3	6	7	4	1	9	8	2
6	1	4	2	3	7	8	9	5
3	2	5	4	9	8	1	6	7
8	7	9	6	1	5	2	4	3
9	5	3	1	7	4	6	2	8
4	6	7	8	2	3	5	1	9
1	8	2	9	5	6	3	7	4

Find today's answers + play more games at metronews.ca

SUDOKU SOLVE TIME:	17-21 min	Smart
Under 13 min	21-25 min	Not bad
13-17 min	25+ min	Keep practising

Metro Recipe of the Day



Chicken Brochettes with Pita

INGREDIENTS:

4 chicken breast fillets, each about 150 g, cut into bite-sized pieces
1 large green pepper, seeded and cut into bite-sized pieces
1 tbsp (15 ml) olive oil
Juice of 1 lemon
4 pita breads
1/3 cup (75 ml) soft goat cheese with garlic and herbs
4 crisp lettuce leaves
2 tomatoes, sliced
Salt and freshly ground black pepper
Sprigs of fresh flat-leaf parsley to garnish

METHOD:

1. Soak eight wooden skewers in cold water for at least 30 minutes, or use metal skewers. Preheat grill or broiler to moderate heat.
2. Thread alternate pieces

chicken and green pepper onto skewers, pushing ingredients close together to keep juicy. Brush with oil.
3. Grill brochettes 7-8 minutes per side until chicken is cooked through. Sprinkle with lemon juice.
4. Meanwhile, warm pita breads, either under grill or in toaster. Spread goat cheese on lettuce leaves.
5. To serve, split pitas open and insert lettuce and tomato slices. Season brochettes, then slip chicken and peppers into pita pockets. Garnish with sprigs of fresh parsley.

SERVES 4

rd.ca

For nutritional information on this and other great recipes, go to rd.ca or check out Key Ingredients in this month's Reader's Digest, on newsstands now!



Horoscopes

AVATAR VENUS

ARIES

MARCH 21-APRIL 20



Rowdiness alienates somebody you hope to attract. Don't tell an idiot he is offensive. Your courage is admired and will soon be rewarded.

LIBRA

SEPT 23-OCT 23



You'll get further ahead by starting early. Be careful when sharing emotional information. Taking it easy will be hard to do without support.

TAURUS

APRIL 21-MAY 21



Worry not, the universe is unfolding properly. You bother someone who wants to cheat. Don't pursue a topic if a sensitive person gets upset.

SCORPIO

OCT 24-NOV 22



Change your viewpoint about financial matters. It's a challenge to be sensible about an ailment. You might be feeling that you're left out of things.

GEMINI

MAY 22-JUNE 21



A friend introduces an adorable person. Be thankful when someone does the right thing. Don't be fooled by anyone who tries to manipulate you.

SAGITTARIUS

NOV 23-DEC 21



Foolishness can't be avoided — so you might as well enjoy it. A foreigner wrecks your work. Start getting rid of useless things.

CANCER

JUNE 22-JULY 22



Embarrassment is forgotten when you're praised. An idiot pushes your buttons. You'll have to rescue a troubled person when you don't want to.

CAPRICORN

DEC 22-JAN 20



Don't panic if someone is unconventional. A friend's experience makes an interesting story. A relationship issue causes turmoil around you.

LEO

JULY 23-AUG 23



Learning a new skill is hard but persistence brings rewards. Fight against egotism when planning an event. Unnecessary anxieties must be dealt with.

AQUARIUS

JAN 21-FEB 18



Messages must be acted upon immediately. You are admired for a stand that you took. You should stay away from people who spread germs.

VIRGO

AUG 24-SEPT 22



A meeting changes your attitude when the surprising truth comes out. Bid farewell to something you like. Ignore bad news that won't come about.

PISCES

FEB 19-MARCH 20



Think very carefully before you make a choice. It's to your advantage to be honest. Intense emotions will rise up, stay calm if you can.

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WORDY GURDY®

BY TRICKY RICKY KANE

1. Ebony-colored push pin (1)
2. "2001" computer's buddies (1)
3. Discard a rat-catching device (1)
4. Train cargo unit charge (1)
5. Shower of gratitude to Couric, e.g. (2)
6. Scamps' Irish accents (1)
7. After scooping the insides out of (3)

Every answer is a rhyming pair of words (like FAT CAT and DOUBLE TROUBLE), and they will fit in the letter squares. The number after the definition tells you how many syllables in each word.

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ANSWERS
1. BLACK JACK 2. HALS PALS 3. SCRAP TRAP 4. FREIGHT RATE
5. ANCHOR THAWKER 6. ROGUES BROGUES 7. FOLLOWING HOLLOWING
2-9-09

This day in history

FEB. 9, 1960: Joanne Woodward receives the first star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame.
FEB. 9, 1965: Vietnam War: The first United States combat troops are sent to South Vietnam.
FEB. 9, 1969: First test flight of the Boeing 747.
FEB. 9, 1986: Comet Halley reaches perihelion, its closest approach to the sun, during its second visit to the inner solar system in the 20th century.
FEB. 9, 1996: The Irish Republican Army declares the end of its 18-month ceasefire shortly followed by a large bomb in London's Canary Wharf.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

CANADA'S ECONOMIC ACTION PLAN

The Government of Canada's proposed Economic Action Plan contains new tax measures that may benefit you.

If you're a homeowner, or are planning to become a homeowner, the Action Plan can help.

Support for home renovations

- ✓ For a limited time, the new *Home Renovation Tax Credit* means homeowners could receive up to \$1,350 in tax relief on renovation expenses

Support for first-time homebuyers

- ✓ An increase to \$25,000 in the amount you can withdraw from your RRSP under the Home Buyers' Plan to purchase or build a first home
- ✓ A First-Time Home Buyers' Tax Credit that allows you to save up to \$750 on the closing costs of a first home

Canada's Economic Action Plan

www.actionplan.gc.ca

1 800 O-Canada (1-800-622-6232)

TTY: 1-800-926-9105



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